



The Crow Flight



Thirty-fourth Newsletter of the 47th, 48th, 396th & 820th Bombardment Squadrons, 41st Bombardment Group (M), 7th AF, WWII, Issued November 2005

EXTRA! 41ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP REUNITED EXTRA!



The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

A GATHERING OF HEROES

Members of the 41st Bomb Group, 7th Air Force, including officers from the 47th, 48th, 396th and 820th Bomb Squadrons, who are holding their 10th reunion this week in Hot Springs, re-group Monday afternoon in the lobby of the Austin Hotel and Convention Center before visiting Garvan Woodland Gardens. The members of the 41st served in the Central Pacific from 1943 to 1945, flying B-25s with six-man crews on 50 missions against the enemy during World War II. Joe Roop, a pilot with the 41st now living in Hot Springs Village, was the reunion chairman this year. This was the first visit to the Spa City by the group, which hopes to reconvene in Tucson, Ariz., next year. Roop noted members, ranging in age from 80 to 91 came from all over the United States and began arriving Saturday. The reunion is scheduled to end Wednesday.

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L to R. Top Row: Urb Gutting, 47th; Emery Tuttle, 820th; Bill Childs, 820th; Rick Rondinelli, 47th. 2nd Row: Arnold Sayer, 47th; Lou Beisser, 396th; Paul Brooks, 820th. 3rd Row: Fred Deutsch, 48th; George Tolbert, 47th; Dick Sternberg, 396th; Ed Feist, 396th; Johnny Widener, 47th. 4th Row: John "Skip" Thrune, 820th; Paul Hopson, 48th; Kem Sitterley, 47th; Bill MacMinn, 396th; Thom Zachok, 47th; Joe Roop, 47th; Bill Telega, 47th. Not pictured: J.C. "Pancho" Rowe, 820th (Was attending to Garvin Gardens).

THANKS JOE AND LOLA ROOP! Once again we were blessed with dedicated and astute Reunion Coordinators who would plan, sweat, re-plan, adjust, monitor and hone our Hot Springs Reunion to a rousing success. Here is a collage of some of the attendee's smiling faces, starting with the official greeters, Joe and Lola.



Top R: Good buddies Kem Sitterley & Dick Sternberg warmly greet in the Hospitality Room. Kem's WWII hat was a gift from his daughter, Kemary (The jacket is his original). Kemary wouldn't reveal where or for how much that hat was purchased, but it had to be a substantial amount. Did you guys know that kind of memorabilia old stuff is now in valuable demand? Below Kem & Dick (No pecking order intended), is a lovely distaff group in the Hospitality Room: Mary Widener, Bev Williams, Bobbie MacMinn, Lola Roop and Doris Sayer. Far L are lobby registrants Doris & Arnold Sayer, then Bill & Bobbie MacMinn (extra nice smiles there).

L. is Pat Sternberg & Corinne & Lou Beisser. Background animated conversationalists are Bill & Jean Childs & (I think) Emery Tuttle.



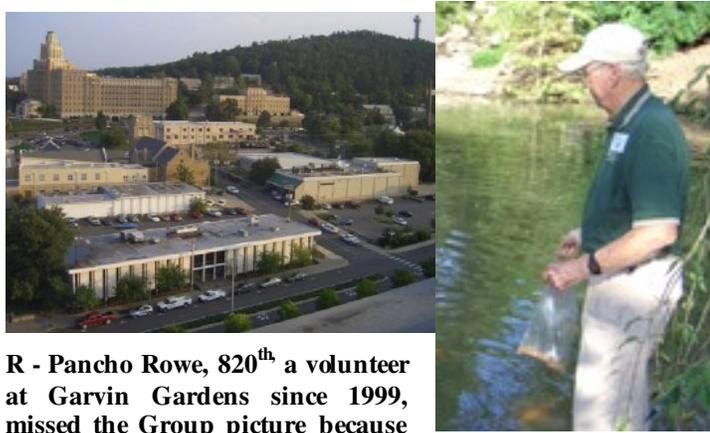
R. At 0900 on Mon. the Joint Sq. (41st Bomb. Group) meeting, followed by individual Sq. meetings, commenced with Joe kicking off with detailed reunion schedule up-dates.

Following that, a motion to hold the 2006 Reunion at Tucson, AZ. was unanimously adopted. To my chagrin, the only photo available of our Marine hero, Rolf Grandstaff, appears, with his camcorder, in the upper left corner.



JOE AND LOLA REUNION REPORT:

In spite of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, once again Lola got what Lola wanted: a beautiful Reunion week in Hot Springs, Arkansas, with 51 souls in attendance, including 12 of our newly allied 820th Bomb. Sq. folks. That's a great turn-out and we thank each and every one for coming.



R - Pancho Rowe, 820th a volunteer at Garvin Gardens since 1999, missed the Group picture because of duty that day. Above - Old VA Hospital top L.

We think the Group picture that made front page news in the Hot springs National Park, *The Sentinel-Record* on Tues., Sept. 27, 2005 came out great. We have extra copies available, if anyone wasn't able to obtain one.

Arrivals began Saturday, Sept. 24 and the final couple, Thom and Mary Zachok, got in Monday in time to join us for the tour of Garvin Gardens and the dinner cruise on the Belle of Hot Springs.

One of 3 unique bridges in the 210 acre Gardens
L-R Ellie Telega, Bev Willims, Leo & Pauline Schank



Monday was our busiest day, with morning meetings, Garvin and the Belle of Hot Springs, but everyone came through with flying colors. Tuesday was a day of relaxation except for our golfers, who claimed fatigue as their main excuse. They had other excuses also; it goes with the game.



Rick, Thom, Marilyn, Mary
The rest of us were well rested for viewing of The Bath House Show Tuesday evening, and we believe everyone had a



rousing time there. Much to our surprise, Paula Schank, sister-in-law of Liz Feist, was called to the stage to assist in the program. She stole the show. Way to go, Pauline!

Bev & Geo & Romance



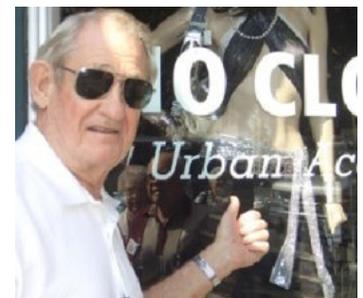
Wed. morning we toured Hot Springs by way of Wise Mt. and the lookout tower, ending up for lunch at Granies Kitchen.

Stalag 17 Prisoners? No, it's Corinne, Carolyn, George, Urb, Ed and Paul at the lookout tower.

The WWII airplanes hanging from the ceiling, including our beloved B-25, was a great attraction.



L. Joe & his "Lola Mae" airplane pic, prominently displayed at Granies Kitchen.



Flight memorabilia of all types was presented in a very impressive



array, including, that day, special artifacts of ancient WWII survivors: i.e., Paul Hopson, lower L, then "Skip" Thrune & Arnold Sayer.

Discernable pterodactyls in the background are Emery Tuttle, by the post, and Geo Tolbert.

JOE & LOLA REPORT CONT'D:

Our Wed. was completed with "Happy Hour" in the DeSoto Room and then our banquet featured by good food and our guest speaker, Major General Lewis Lyle USAF (Ret.).

It was great having Rolf Grandstaff, son of John, Dawn Allison, daughter of Ed Feist, and her husband, Ken, Ted Telega and wife Janice, son and daughter-in-law of Bill & Ellie Telega and Kemary Crowder, daughter of Kem Sitterley. We also welcomed and were honored to have Dr. Brad LeMay and wife Jan, guests of Pancho Rowe, at the Banquet.

Ellie & Bill Telega brought Georgia Peach wine to share with all of us...it is great. Thanks Bill & Ellie.

Also, thanks to Johnny & Mary Widener for giving all the 47th guys that "Crow Flight" logo cap; really nice.

Thursday AM we wished God Speed to our friends departing to their homes in every direction...from the east coast, west coast and all parts in between.

All in all it was wonderful meeting and greeting old friends and having the opportunity to get acquainted with many we had not met.

For those of you who couldn't make it to this reunion...you were missed...we know you would have enjoyed it.

So long for now and we will see you all in Tucson next year. Joe and Lola

THIS WRITER'S REUNION THOUGHTS:

As mentioned in TCF #32, each Reunion Coordinator/Spouse Team (Or President or Chairman/Spouse...we've never had an official title; Geo Tolbert called himself "Coordinator" in '96 so that's been good enough) has presented their unique style and each has been outstanding in their own way.

Joe & Lola went a "laid back" route for planned activities, thereby giving those of us, not as energetic as Skip, George, Emery and a few others, a bit of in-between activities rest. Some also took advantage of the extra time off to further relax with "Spa in the Park" pampering. Says Pat: Right on!

Most importantly, though, the eased schedule allowed extra time to mingle, mix, commune and relax with old comrades and their friends and relatives...and to make new acquaintances and budding friendships.

Two factors enhanced the mix of the old and the new. First in importance was the bringing together of people from all four of our squadrons. A close second in importance was the extraordinary Hospitality Room facility and its amenities: large in size with very nice

décor, comfortable furniture, large TV (for showing some B-25 wartime VCRs...thanks again Diane) and two amply sized tables, useful for displays, gathering around and snack arrays.

Personally, I believe the simple acts of camaraderie remain the most important element of our Reunion gatherings.

Another facet of the Joe/Lola approach was that of frugality, resulting in probably the most economical Reunion we've had. Joe has developed talents to rival the renowned "Scrounging Sergeants" we knew back then.

I witnessed him work the "Belle of Hot Springs" owner for a free dessert in the package. On the drive back to the Austin Hotel, a stop to buy the delicious shrimp and dip that we enjoyed resulted in a discounted price. Joe wanted it gratis, but the poor manager pled his allowance was used up with hurricane Rita donations.

My "bad back hunch & shuffle" may also have helped induce some sympathy for "The Old Warriors" (as it did on Tues with my golf companions...heh, heh).

The drawing prizes given by Joe aboard the bus were also donated "freebies." Didn't make notes of who else won, but do remember that I won a \$50 spa certificate at the Austin Hotel "Spa in the Park." Aahh. Those nice memorabilia gifts of Quartz Crystal from Ron Coleman Mining for the ladies, and the "Natural Arkansas Stone Knife Sharpener" for the gents, given to us at the Banquet, were no cost items "scrounged" by Joe.

There was one minor setback, not of Joe's fault, in his planning. The contract arranged for the "Mule Drawn Trolley Tour" was later changed to the "Motorized Trolley Tour" because they failed to advise Joe that the mules are retired for the season after Labor Day. Then, weeks later, Joe was advised by the contractor that State Authorities (remember, this is Arkansas) declared that the federally subsidized Trolleys were not eligible for leasing; hence, the contractor agreed to provide the tours in vans at the same price originally quoted to Joe.

Alas, the sterile van tours were no match for the anticipated romantic aura and aroma of being towed behind mules in a vintage trolley.

A potentially significant problem for Joe arose when the High School Color Guard arrived minutes before Banquet time without a U.S. Flag. Fortunately, before the heart attack could mature, Joe acquired a flag from the hotel staff and all went well.

BOTTOM LINE: KUDOS TO JOE & LOLA FOR PROVIDING US A MARVELOUS REUNION!



820th BOMB. SQ. NEWS:



De facto, with twelve 820th personnel attending Hot Springs, we are now a group association as far as Reunion activities.

EMERY TUTTLE has provided a mailing list of 820th personnel for receipt of "The Crow Flight" newsletter, so we've joined forces there. Publication costs, as has been the practice, will be prorated to each Sq. based on the number of copies sent to each.

Treasuries remain independent. Emery asked that 820th folks be reminded that dues are \$10 per calendar year. Refer to the Masthead, P 9. Emery also requested that e-mail addresses be provided as it expedites communication.

J.C." PANCHO" ROWE, 820th, friend and admirer of our Banquet Guest Speaker, Maj. Gen. Lewis Lyle, made the introductory remarks.

"Pancho's" reply to request for a recap was: "I had very few notes, for my introduction was from several years of friendship with Lew. First, I would say this is a REAL hero!

"A bit of background would be in order. Lew graduated from flying cadets on Dec. 6, 1941. As he was leaving San Antonio on Dec. 7, 1941 he heard on his new car's radio the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. He turned around and went back to Kelly field. He entered B-17 training and was sent to England. His squadron dropped the first daylight bombs on Germany. Twenty five missions was a tour of duty as 60 percent of the B-17s were being shot down before their 25 missions were up. Lew flew his 25, then another 25 and another 25! He flew more missions than any other B-17 pilot. When visiting with him about being scared when anti-aircraft shells came close, he looked me in the eye and said, 'I loved every minuet of it. I knew I was not going to be killed.'

"Lew stayed in the Air Force and retired as a major general. His decorations included: Distinguished Service Medal, 3 Silver Stars, 4 DFC's, 9 Air Medals, the British Distinguished Flying Cross, the French Croix de Guerre and others. A very modest and real gentleman: Major General Lewis Lyle."

STRANGE LOOKING SANTA CLAUSE – the one in the cockpit on P 12 -- is SKIP THRUNE, 820th in his family owned & Russian made Yak 52. Skip says: It's about the size of an AT6, starts with compressed air, radial engine is reverse, and so is the torque (fun on take-off if you forget). Brakes are air. No hydraulics to freeze. Flight indicator doesn't tumble, so no pre-aerobatic caging, BUT – up is down and down is up – real hairy on IFR. Oh yeah, the real fun part is taxiing. No heel or toe; grip the stick to apply pressure, kick rudder for direction; much more fun than the old Waco, with the Johnson Bar. I ground looped my first attempt. Lots more, but the best part, it out-performs a T6. Split flaps, tricycle gear, G-Indicator, etc., etc.



396TH BOMB. SQ. NEWS



WARREN "DOC" EYER reports: 9-28-05. The latest 396th Roster is here. I'm certain there will be a number of corrections, additions, etc. Please let me know & I'll do my best to correct. Our thanks to friend of the 396th, Gwen Moody for all the work and materials she donated to the roster. Once again, I salute Zing...what a job he did for us...and for all. Thanks, Zing

Just received word that the group voted for Tucson as the location for next year's reunion...! Great...! Y'all come, and we'll have a great time!

Speaking of Tucson, while the 396th (or predecessor 6th Recon.) based at Davis-Monthan AAB...a future C.O. of our 396th, a pilot, changed the name of Virginia Morris to Mrs. Andrew P. McDavid. He now rests in Arlington and she is living in Ocean Springs, Miss....right next to Biloxi, hit by the storm. Have received word that she is OK. We all pray that all members and families came thru OK.

Thanks for the run-down on the Hot Springs gathering. Have already received a few very positive comments on coming Tucson happening. I agree on the early October period...the temperature has tumbled below 90 degrees by that time...tho it seems that the norm that was is no longer.

There is an endless list of things to do and see. Topping the list (to me) is the Air Museum...very well done! The bone yard at Davis-Monthan is unbelievable.

NOTE FROM ANTHONY T. MICOS, 396TH Attorney at Law. I just received your letter and a copy of the updated roster of the 396th Bomb Sq.

Now that I have retired from practice, I hope my wife and I can attend the next reunion to be held in Tucson, AZ.

We would get a kick out of seeing and talking with **Richard Gigger, Bruce Hanson, Dick Sternberg and Richard Heckel** after all these years. Sincerely, Mike

NOTE FROM HARRY E. BOKMANN, 396TH, 7-1-05.

Enclosed is a check for dues and a copy of the roster if you still have one, if not take \$3 and put it in the pot. I'm 91 tomorrow. I was one of the older ground crew who joined the 396th in Visalia, CA. I was a crew chief before I was a corporal.

FROM PEGGY THOMPSON, WIDOW OF TOMMY, 396TH: Dear Doc & Therese, Was so good talking with you on the phone. When I receive The Crow flight I always think of you. I feel guilty for not paying yearly dues. I thank you for always sending me TCF all these years. Please add this to the bank balance. Hope one of these days we will meet again. Love, PT

FROM ROBERT & ARLIE BAIRD, 396TH: Dear Doc: Just a note to thank you for the 396th Bomb Sq Roster. Reminds me how our numbers continue to (Cont'd P6)



JOHN HELMER FOR THE 48TH



Fall has arrived, but about three weeks late. We had a very wet spring and a late start for summer. All the fruit and vegetable then came in late. Our first heavy rains for fall have just started, one whole week of rain with no sun.

I often wear the B-25 pin that was part of the package at the Portland Reunion. Some people ask me, "What kind of plane on you pin?" I tell them about the B-25. Three people mentioned their appreciation for the service we were to our country. These are strangers that I meet working in the store three days a week. I spend two days a week in the woods working (5 hours is all I can stand with the hard work).

Best of Holiday Greetings from Beverly and John.

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(Cont'd from P4, **ROBERT BAIRD**) dwindle with the passing of time. A story in our local paper said some 1000 WWII veterans die each day prompted me to write down my memories of WWII. Sent 14 pages of text and two pages of pictures (our crew, low level bomb run, etc) to the Veterans History Project in the Library of Congress. Haven't received any acknowledgment of its receipt yet, but know through tracking that it was delivered.

In the roster you have entered our FL address where we normally spend or time from Oct. thru March. This year, however, we won't be going down until January--our RV park took a hit from Wilma--took out the sewage plant, the water plant, big door off the Rec Hall. What else we don't know--we received word via the grapevine that no residents should go don to the Park unless they can provide their own sewer and water service. Of course that can last just so long. We hope to go down in Jan and put our property on the market. Getting harder and harder to make the trip back and forth.

Thanks much for your efforts on behalf of all of us and our thanks, too, to the hard-working editor of the newsletter. Enjoy it very much. [Muchos gratious.]

Happy Holidays to you and yours and good health in the coming year. Sincerely, Robert J. Baird

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FROM MICHIKO O. MONA, widow of **RUBIN, 396TH**: "I'm very sorry for not be able to go to a Hot Springs reunion.

I shouldn't even think about vacation until my daughter finishes the master degree and gets a N.A. license.

Fortunately, I'm still very healthy and am planning to move to the Air Force Village [In San Antonio] someday near future.

Hope to see you in Texas. Till then please stay well!!"
Sincerely, Michiko [Michiko phoned requesting information for the Hot Springs Reunion, and had planned to come. Hopefully, we will have the pleasure of meeting Michiko in Tucson.]

OTHER SQUADRON NOTES:

ROLF GRANDSTAFF, SON OF JOHN, 47TH (Dec.) and JEANNETTE: "I had a great time at the reunion in Hot Springs. It was an honor and a privilege to meet you guys and share the event with you. I appreciate you letting me sit in on your reminiscing and putting up with my questions. I learned a lot and enjoyed it immensely. (I used to bug my Dad the same way when I was a kid: I guess I never grew out of it.)

MIKE HASKELL is in the process of reactivating his Dad's website for the 41st. Among other things, we'd like to add a section to the site for stories of the 41st which I think would be a good way to preserve your memories in a place that could be easily accessed. For starters, there are a number of interesting stories from "The Crow Flight" that we'd like to get out there. I think it'd be a lot of fun too and we'd like to hear from you. Please note that while your story should have some basis in fact, we don't expect it to get in the way of a good story.

If you have any experiences, memories of the 41st that you'd like to share, please send them to me in any way that's convenient for you--written, recorded, or even just give me a call--and I'll get 'em out there on the web for us.

My address is: Rolf Grandstaff

228 Chris Ct.

Garner, NC 27529

Phone: (919) 553-9852

Email: rolfgrand@aol.com

Hope to see you at Tucson for the next reunion. Maybe we'll find some Mitchells at the Bone Yard there somewhere..."

FROM JOHN WELFARE, 47TH, Roanoke, VA. I have been meaning to write a bit on my family as well as all my five brothers who were all in the war. Thanks for all you do for the 47th. Regards, J.W. [Hope to be hearing from you, John. And see above.]



L -THOM ZACHOK, 47th seems mighty proud of his new cap. Where & how did he get the added insignia so quickly?

Below - (Background) Paul & Hedy Brooks - Jean & Bill Childs, all 820th.



HOT SPRINGS REUNION

HOW IT WENT: Once again we were able, with benevolent heavenly assistance, to thwart Thor's attempt to disrupt our reunion by hammering us with hurricane Rita's aftermath. Deluge-like rains, predicted to hang around the area for days, hit the Hot Springs area on Saturday, but then obligingly moved on, leaving sunny weather for Sunday and through the week.

There was, however, one casualty, that being GUS & ENID ANDERSON'S, 820th, cancellation due to concern about gasoline availability for their drive from NW Texas. We all did miss seeing you again, Gus & Enid.

Also, THOM and MARY ZACHOK's scheduled Sunday flight (thru Houston) was delayed until Monday: therein lays a tale of genuine caring and kindness, extended by ROLF GRANDSTAFF, son of John (Dec.), 47th.

Mary's note of 10-17-05 explains: "Just wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed the trip to Hot Springs. Lola and Joe did a great job. I especially enjoyed the Bath House Musical and Comedy Show. I would also like to express my appreciation to everyone who was so kind in helping with Thom, especially you for arranging rides to and from the airport. As usual, you are the glue that holds it altogether.

And to Rolf Grandstaff, who went beyond the call of duty, first by coming on Monday to pick us up and second for getting [Thom] up that ramp from the boat (Piece of cake for a Marine). It's wonderful to see such caring for each other."

Ed.: Apparently, Marines don't adhere to the military maxim, "Don't volunteer." On his Registration form, Rolf wrote, "Happy to help out anyone who does need special assistance." So, Rolf was put to the test: he agreed to wait about two hours for Thom and Mary's arrival on Sunday; then, when that flight was cancelled he volunteered to drive to the airport on Monday (about an hour each way) to pick them up. So, a salute to Marine Rolf Grandstaff (he's no longer active but, "once a Marine, always a Marine." Semper fidelia.

Thanks must also be extended to Lou & Corinne Beisser, who transported and assisted the Zachoks back to the Little Rock airport on Thursday.

One other semi-casualty was a pooped me after driving Sat. about seven hours through Rita's very heavy winds and rain, and with about only four hours sleep. It took to about Wed. to recover, so that my golf game Tues. was not up to par.

THANK YOU DUE: To Bill and Ellie Telega for their very thoughtful and generous gift of delicious "Arbor Mist" Peach Chardonnay wine. Two cases, I believe, were made available...enough for at least a bottle for each couple attending (Psst...we got two).

THANK YOU DUE: From all the 47th Sq. vet reunion attendees, to Johnny and Mary Widener for their very generous gift to each of us of a 47th logo cap; they are of first class quality and handsomely made with braided piping and crochet "lightening" on the bill. You can see them in the P 1 group pic being worn by Johnny, Thom and Arnold. Bill and I are holding ours, not wanting to hide our lush heads of hair.

FROM JOHNNY AND MARY WIDENER, 47th:
"Received the check for \$10.50, appreciate the excellent care of our funds, but would like you to put that on our dues, forgot to pay at the reunion.

As usual you all did an excellent job on the reunion supervision. Looking forward to Tucson next year, then we can go on to S. California to our daughter and son-in-law.

Urb, understand about the newsletter data, as I do a quarterly 16 page local genealogy newsletter, but mine is back in the early 1900's. Have an item, that you might want to edit down that was in the local paper in July, telling about Johnny with the 47th and also, since. I'll try to get a copy from the newspaper, perhaps on a cd as it has a good digital photo of Johnny. Then you can do as you want with the extra data.

Thanks again for being such good stewards of the money!!" Sincerely J & M W

[Ed.: Of course, asked Mary to send on the news article about Johnny, so we will have that to look forward to in a future issue.]

FROM SKIP AND RENE THRUNE, 820th: "Rene and I thank the many people who made the reunion such a pleasure for us, especially Joe and Lola. Even the weather cooperated to make it enjoyable.

Pancho and Wayma Rowe hosted three great 820th reunion there, using the old Arlington. The staff, at the Austin, was equally up to the task of making us very welcome. The hospitality room and other facilities were well arranged.

The tours were well handled, and the schedule gave time for those extras the ladies enjoyed. I'm sure they didn't miss us golfers.

We are definitely looking forward to the next Group reunion at Tucson!"

OBITUARIES:

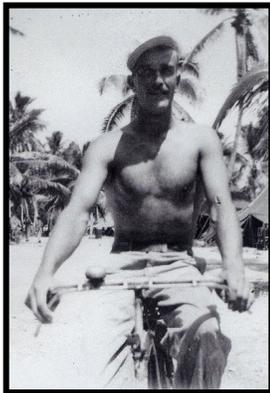
- **FROM PATRICIA NOË:** My father, WARREN NOË, passed away in July. He treasured his issues of *The Crow Flight*. He even started a bio-page a year ago which he never finished or sent.

Warren L. Noë, 1917 – 2005

At the age of three, after the death of his mother, my father was moved from his birthplace in Oregon to the panhandle of Oklahoma. He never felt at home there. As soon as he was old enough he left behind the dustbowl and made his way back west. He found work with the Civilian Conservation Corps working in Arizona, California, Oregon and Alaska.



During WWII he served as ground crew for the Fighting 48th Bomb. Squadron working on B-25's in the P.T.O. on Apamama, Makin, Eniwetok, Wheeler, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Moluccas.



At the war's end he headed back to Oregon to work in the woods and lumber mills. He married and started a family. When the opportunity arose he moved his young family to California and he worked for United Airlines as an aircraft mechanic. He loved working with his hands, learning new things and seeing new places.

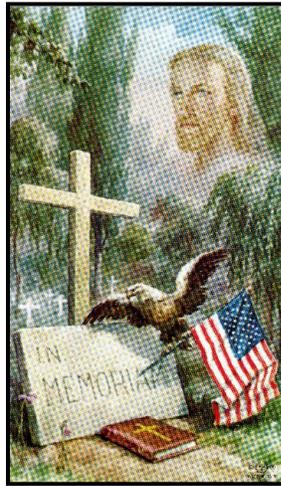
After 27 years at United he retired and took tours of the world – Scandinavia, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Portugal, went up the Nile, took a train across the Rockies, traveled from Moscow to Siberia, Tokyo, Hong Kong, the Caribbean, Tahiti.

But above traveling he loved to dance. He said that old age and orneriness had caught up with him ---“can't hear, can't see, and can't dance.”

So, I guess since he could no longer dance he decided to move on. The day before he died he held my hand and said, “What an adventure, huh?”

My father died July 28th, 2005 at the age of 87. He left behind a brother and sister, his son Michael, daughters Sheila and Patricia, two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Now he dances on a smoother, wider dance floor to the music of the spheres.



JERI MAHAN, spouse of JOHN H. MAHAN, 47th, wrote: This is a note to tell you that John passed away July 12, 2005. We had 59

years of wonderful time together. We raised five children. I miss him so much. He enjoyed *The Crow Flight* you sent and I did also. Love and prayers for all the veterans.

- Marian fondly refers to her deceased spouse, H. CHARLES TREAKLE, 47TH as “CHAZZ.”

They met after the war years while both were students at George Washington U. and were married for 53 years. A brief of Charles's obituary was reported in the last TCF issue, with reference to his many accomplishments as reported in TCF #22.

Born in 1920 and raised on a family farm in Street, Maryland, he had a lifetime interest in painting and in flight. His education began in a one room school house and culminated with a B.A. degree in Economics and an M.A. degree in International Economics. As an undergraduate Charles was a licensed pilot with the Civil Air Patrol.

After WWII, in which Charles flew missions as a pilot in the Marshall Islands and Okinawa, he was a member of the Air Force Reserve, retiring as a Capt.

His love of outdoors merged with many years of BSA leadership and award of the Wood Badge.

His oil and watercolor paintings were exhibited locally (Arlington, VA) and at the Torpedo Factory in Arlington, VA.

Charles was buried June 17, 2005 with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

In Loving Memory of

JOHN H. MAHAN

November 30, 1922

July 12, 2005

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,

I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when day is gone,

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the way,

Of happy times, and laughing times, and bright and sunny days,

I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun,

Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

Reed-Egan Funeral Home
Newark, OH





THE CROW FLIGHT is a publication of the 47TH, 48TH, 396 TH & 820TH Bombardment Squadrons, 41st Bomb. Group, (M) 7th AF, WWII

Currently, the targeted publication schedule is Feb. – May – Aug. –Nov.

Materials for publication & requests for the “Bio” form should be sent to your Sq. Rep. or Urban A. Gutting, postal, tel. & e-mail addresses below.

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396TH CONTACT: WARREN L. (Doc) EYER 3733 Calle Guaymas, Tucson, AZ 85716. Tel: (520) 881-7229 E-mail w.eyer@worldnet.att.net

820TH CONTACTS: NORM GERIL 130 Colonial Dr., Southbury, CT 06488 Tel: 203-262-1860 E-mail: ngeril@earthlink.net; EMERY TUTTLE, 147 Esquire Rd., Mabank, TX 75156. Tel. 451-3029. E-mail: sky.pilotem@dctexas.net

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Contact Your Sq. Representative or “The Crow Flight” Editor & Publisher, Urban A. Gutting, addresses above.

DUES NEWS: 2005 CALENDAR YEAR DUES FOR THE 47TH & 48TH IS \$12 + \$3 FOR A ROSTER; 396TH DUES IS \$15 + \$3 FOR A ROSTER AND THE 820TH DUES IS \$10.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE & SEND TO: EMERY TUTTLE, 820TH, WARREN EYER, 396TH, JOHN HELMER, 48TH & URBAN A. GUTTING FOR THE 47TH. ADDRESSES ABOVE.

\$\$ FINANCIAL REPORTS \$\$

47TH BOMB. SQ. Good Guys and Gals dues and gifts contributors SLR (since last report) are: Thom & Mary Zachok – Bill & Ellie Telega – Bob & Vivian Schack – Francis & Evelyn Lisak – John & Lois Welfare – Marion Treakle (Memory of Charles) – Bill & Jean Childs, 820th (Special Donation) – Johnny & Mary Widener – John K. Dunk Family (Memory of Harold Kasten). The 47th bank balance as of 11-19-05 was \$2897.72.

48TH BOMB. SQ. – John Helmer reports dues and gifts SLR from the following people: Fred Emmert – John Helmer for a total of \$70. Our Savings Balance stands at \$2587.15. Cost to the 48th Sq. for TCF #33 was \$112.91.

396TH BOMB. SQ. - “Doc” Eyer reports dues & gifts

SLR from Jerrell Allee – Robert Baird – Harry Bokmann – C.B. Williams – Warren “Doc” Eyer – Anthony Micros – Walt Winner – Peggy Thompson (Memory of Tommy) – Milayne Mona (Memory of Reuben) for a total of \$238. Our bank balance is \$929.80.

*****DUES FEES CHANGE*****

Effective January 1, 2006 the 47TH & 48TH Squadrons Annual Dues will be \$5, including Sq. Rosters. (NOTE: 396th & 820th fees will remain status quo.)

The proposal to eliminate or reduce dues was made in TCF #32 P14. Reasoning and purpose is to spend down our bank accounts.

Discussion of the issue at Hot Springs resulted in the decision, with deference to your essential continued accompanying input for *The Crow Flight*, to retain some dues payment.

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DON HASKELL'S MEMORIAL WEB SITES:

Be sure to read the very exciting news on P6 regarding Don Haskell's Memorial Web Sites; the URL addresses are listed in the Masthead at left.

Rolf Grandstaff, eldest son of John, 47th deceased, has, in collaboration with Don Haskell's son, Mike, and daughter, Donna Daulton, made arrangements to access Don's 41st Bomb. Gp. site for the purposes of updating and maintaining it.

Those of you who have visited know that Don created a graphic work of art. More importantly, it is serving as a link to generations beyond ours. Thanks to Mike, Donna and Rolf, that link promises to be perpetuated well into the future.

Rolf knows he is taking on a Herculean task, but he seems to relish the challenge. He and his wife, Katrina, are computer programmers at NC State U (Wolfpack), so certainly they have the expertise. When Rolf gets rolling on this he will need input from us, so let's cooperate to the fullest.

Don's web sites have been dormant since 7-9-2001, but have been visited numerous times since, mostly by descendents of the 41st Bombardment Group. Visit the site and click on “View Our Guestbook.” Perhaps there is a message there that you can personally relate and reply to.

LOOKING FORWARD: JOHN WIDENER'S, 47th, accolades per a Cushing, OK 50th anniversary; some “PAPPY” BRANDT nostalgic stories; an obituary of DONALD BUTTISWORTH, 48th, of southern CA, submitted by JACK WATERS, New York & “Bios” by EMERY TUTTLE & PAUL HOPSON.



Crow Caws



A Publication of the 47th, 48th, 396th & 820th Bombardment Squadrons, 41st Bombardment Group (M), 7th AF, WWII, Issued February 2006

To: 41st Bombardment Group Reunion Association Members (Biggest Baddest Buncha Bomber Boys):

Above is a proposed new newsletter header for the united 41st Bomb. Gp. squadrons. (*Crow Droppings* was considered but dropped.).

This joint newsletter will strive to: 1) keep all Sq. Reunion Associations members informed of news generated and reported by the individual squadrons and members 2) publish other items and articles of general interest to all members 3) keep all members informed of the last reunion happenings and of upcoming reunions particulars. A common Reunion Registration Form would be published.

The Crow Flight is currently published four times a year, Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. To keep the newsletter publishing work load manageable, each squadron is asked to, as much as possible, compose and submit its own happenings/events page(s) in a ready for printing format.

All squadrons will retain individual autonomy, conducting their own financial and other affairs as they elect to do.

At yearly \$12 dues for the 47th & \$15 for the 48th & 396th, annual expenses for *The Crow Flight* have been slightly less than dues income; of course, many dues payers have been more generous than asked. The costs of publication are shared pro rata, based on the number of copies sent to each sq.'s members.

The proposed newsletter name would be an extension of *The Crow Flight*, originally a publication of the 47th Crow Flight Sq., which stems from Kem Sitterley's solo inception. Well, to be perfectly honest, not quite solo. He will be the first to admit that his beloved Polly was the inspiration and inceptor of many of his ideas in forming the newsletter. So, in honor of both Polly and Kem, it is thought that some semblance of their original name selection, *The Crow Flight*, should remain; hence, *CroW CawS*.

Please direct your comments regarding this proposal to your respective Sq. representative.

Submitted by: Urban Gutting, Working Nerd Editor & Publisher of *The Crow Flight*.

A COUPLE MORE REUNIION PICS



Lou Besser, Paul Brooks, Arnold Sayer, Rick Rondinelli. Johnny Widener, Geo Tolbert and Paul Hopson (?)



Hedy Brooks and Jan LeMay, spouse of Dr. Brad

I want to acknowledge receipt from GENE OLSEN, 48th of several copies of the "Restricted PILOT'S CHECK LIST, B-25 C & D Airplanes, R2600-13 Engines." Unfortunately, the white on black print format (and they had already been copied a number of times) does not lend itself to reproduction. Informing Joe Roop that six copies were available for distribution, he said, "No, only five, one is mine." Subtracting mine left only four. The remaining were distributed to, I'm sure, worthy recipe- ents, but, alas, it was done after 3 martinis, so can not remember to whom they were given. Remember, too, the over 80 responsibility exdusion. Also thanks to Nathan Mitchell for a CD of beautiful pictures from the Portland Reunion, unfortunately received too late to use in the post-reunion TCF #30. Perhaps some can be included in future issues.





Top L - MAJ/GEN LEWIS LYLE USAF (RET), His Spouse, Betty, & Joe Roop listen attentively while "Pancho" Rowe (Above with Spouse Wayma) introduces the General

Top R - CW- Ed Feist - Pauline & Leo Schank, Rene & Ship Thru



It would save me a lot of trouble, if you'd put this on your frig and leave it up all year...

And don't ever again let that Mad Red Baron help me deliver presents. He scared the leavin' ---- out of me!

**WITH BEST WISHES FOR
A BLESSED 2005 CHRISTMAS
ALL HAPPY HOLIDAYS BETWEEN
AND GOOD HEALTH UNTIL
WE MEET AGAIN IN 2006**

